

No wonder out in the waiting room, in the reception room, I can't get in there because of the tobacco lobbyists—high-priced tobacco lobbyists. They don't want this to happen again. And it can happen. It can happen. It can happen in an hour and a half from now if the Members of this body are going to put the public health first in this debate on the issue that we have at hand.

Here the chart shows the increase in the price and the reaction as a result of the statistic—the reduction in teenage smoking—and the tobacco industry acknowledging the relationship. So we have, as we went through the period of the 1980s, the increase in the real price, and we saw a rather significant increase in the real price going up during this period of time, and we see the corresponding reduction in terms of the teenage smoking. Until when? Until when? Until 1991. Then what happened to the real price? The real price went down and the real price went down on what they call Marlboro Friday, when the Nation's largest tobacco company, Philip Morris, fired the newest salvo which reversed the decade-long use in smoking. They slashed 40 cents off the brand of Marlboros, the most popular brand among children. The strategy was designed to protect prices. If Philip Morris reduced prices by 50 percent in Massachusetts, and a month later, R.J. Reynolds—the second largest tobacco company, which manufactures Camels—had a corresponding reduction.

So we have the major tobacco companies going down, the major price going down. Look on this chart what has happened in terms of youth smoking, escalating, going up dramatically. Price decline, youth smoking increases; price increase, youth smoking goes down. We have seen that continue over a long period of time.

We could say what happened in here over the period for the last year or two, we have seen little blips going up, 10 cents, to cover the costs of various settlements they have had, an increase of 35 percent. It would not really reflect on this chart.

Now what we have seen in here is \$5 billion in tobacco industry advertising, an explosion in advertising. It makes our case, Mr. President.

It makes our case for the proposal that we have at hand. Increase the cost and the price of cigarettes, do it in a significant time with a shock treatment of 3 years. The way that we saw it this time, it is going to have a dramatic impact on young people. Increase the antitobacco advertising, which is in this bill; develop the cessation programs, which are in this bill; strengthen the look-back provisions, which are in this bill; do the kind of prohibition on advertising that is in this bill, and you have the combination of elements that will work to bring a significant reduction in teenage smoking—a significant reduction in teenage smoking.

Mr. President, we must have learned from the past. We have a pathway here

that is outlined by the history of this industry, and the things that have been effective—not just studies, not just testimony, not just surmise, but real facts, Mr. President. Over that long period of time, we have the incontrovertible case that has been made here yesterday, last night, and this morning, again, that cannot be answered. We will hear answers like, oh, well, we will develop a smuggling industry; we can't do this because we don't know where the money is going to be expended; we can't do this because we will have this or that kind of a problem.

There is an issue before the Senate: Can we do something with regard to seeing a significant, dramatic reduction in terms of teenage smoking? The answer to that is, yes, by supporting our amendment that virtually every public health official in this country supports—not only Dr. Koop, not only Dr. Kessler, but the Cancer Society, the Lung Society, and every public health group across the Nation, Republican and Democrat alike. That is the issue that we have. Now is the time to make that judgment. We will have the opportunity to do that in a short period of time.

Mr. President, I see others who want to address the Senate. I yield at this time.

Mr. MCCAIN addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arizona.

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, although we haven't established an exact time for the tabling motion, as I mentioned last night, we will try to do them sometime around 11 o'clock. But I do want the proponents and opponents of these amendments to have ample time to discuss and debate. I think we are working on an informal agreement that we will go from side to side. I see the Senator from Missouri here. If it is agreeable, I would like for him to have recognition next. I will just comment briefly, if I could.

If the Ashcroft amendment is agreed to, smokers won't be relieved of any price increase in this bill. Quite the contrary. If the amendment prevails, the States, at an enormous time and expense, will resume their suits, as we all know. There have been four settlements already, and 36 other States are in line. As we know from the other four States, they will prevail. There were four suits, four settlements. Minnesota is receiving twice—double—what they would have received as a result of the June 20 agreement between the attorneys general in the industry.

So let's not have any mistake. This amendment won't eliminate an increase in cigarette prices, because when the tobacco companies agree to pay the State of Minnesota a certain amount of money, they increase the price for a pack of cigarettes in order to be able to make a settlement. That is how it computes. Make no mistake, its passage will delay getting about the business at hand, and 3,000 kids a day will begin to smoke and a thousand

will die substantially earlier as a result.

Mr. President, I will make more comments later. Have no doubt about the effect of the Ashcroft amendment, which would be simply to delay price increases and delay our ability to attack the issue of kids smoking, because there will be added expenses passed on to the consumer as a result of these settlements. In case the Senator from Missouri missed it, Minnesota and the tobacco companies just settled for double what had been in the original settlement. Those costs will be passed on to the person who purchases a pack of cigarettes. Economics work that way.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

Mr. KERRY addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Massachusetts is recognized.

Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, I wanted to indicate to my friend from Arizona that the Senator from Missouri indicates to me that he intends to speak for a relative period of time. It was agreeable to him as a result of that to try to accommodate a couple of Members over here, unless they want to wait until afterwards. I am just trying to balance it. Could the Senator perhaps give us some indication of the length of time, so we can try to pin this down?

Mr. ASHCROFT. Mr. President, I can't give a specific time. I would be pleased to let a couple of your folks go ahead, and I will follow them if that would be the understanding.

Mr. MCCAIN. We have to go back and forth.

Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, that is fine.

Mr. MCCAIN. He is going to talk sooner or later. I am sorry he can't determine how much time he is going to talk.

Mr. KERRY. Fine, Mr. President. We will try to stick with that.

A NEW GRANDCHILD FOR SENATOR LAUTENBERG

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, a new grandchild for our good friend and colleague from New Jersey was born early this morning. That is joyous and good news. In the midst of this tumultuous debate, we can all join in wishing him congratulations.

Mr. LAUTENBERG. My daughter called at 8:30 saying that she had the baby at home at 5:30.

Thank you very much for the kind words.

NATIONAL TOBACCO POLICY AND YOUTH SMOKING REDUCTION ACT

The Senate continued with the consideration of the bill.

Mr. KERRY. With that appropriate announcement, and the joy that it brings, we will yield to the Senator from Missouri and take our licks.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Missouri is recognized.

AMENDMENT NO. 2427

Mr. ASHCROFT. Mr. President, I rise today to discuss the tobacco bill. While